

Carpenter-Snow Creek Site

The Carpenter-Snow Creek Mining District (CSC District) NPL site is located adjacent to and includes the town of Neihart. Mining began in the CSC District when prospectors from Barker discovered silver deposits near the future town of Neihart. The CSC District's mines primarily yielded silver, lead, and zinc ores. After 1883, only those mines with high grade silver ore continued to operate. Later during the period from 1915-1919, the use of the flotation process allowed the mining of lower grade silver ore. During the 1940s, lead and zinc were produced in large quantities. The CSC District has been largely inactive since the 1960s, although some mines have reported mine development work and some sporadic production.

Approximately 96 abandoned mines have been identified in the Carpenter-Snow Creek Mining District, and at least 21 of these have been identified as potential sources of contamination to surface water. There are documented impacts from mining waste to soil, surface water and stream sediments in Carpenter Creek, Snow Creek, and Belt Creek.